

Minutes of Community Meeting – December 19, 2008

Convened at 7:05 pm

Present – 5 staff members 4 parents

Facilitator: Carol Samuelson Scribe: Kay Smitherman Timekeeper: Mike Fitch

No items in parking lot.

New Board member, Will Dwiggins, introduced.

New Items added to agenda.

NLI PLAN:

Mike: Relating to the NLI presentation of last month, have safety and security of students been considered in the implementation plans of landscaping with private areas? Will there be a fence enclosing the outer boundary of the school to prevent the public from wandering in and presenting possible danger to our students?

Liz: Plan not final. Toddler teachers had expressed concern about blind spots in their area.

Angela: There is no plan to fence off entire school. Our hope would be to welcome neighbors hospitably, sharing the walking path in off-school hours. The NLI workshop detailed the benefits of age appropriate secluded nooks for children, but we understand parental safety concerns. As the landscape grows, teachers will need to incorporate area checks before students enter.

Mary Beth: This is an item that needs more parent input. Also, will there be blind spots caused by planting in the circle?

Angela: These are important topics that will be readdressed at the final NLI presentation and as the actual landscaping appears, individual area concerns will be open for discussion, always with the children's safety considered foremost.

Mary Beth: Cameras?

Angela: Cameras have been discussed, especially for times when few staff are present at the end of day.

FARMER'S DAUGHTER: So far, so good. About 20 students per day use the service and seem to like it. They have five other schools in the area, so even though we don't have many orders per day, the program plans are to keep going.

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK – AME introduced the school wide drive to collect food for the needy, not just now, but throughout the year. Mary Beth suggested presenting the background to a larger group, with elementary teachers and students telling their experience. Angela mentioned a student who used his birthday to receive food and then took it to Second Harvest. Also suggestion was made to promote Empty Bowl luncheon as a parent/child event. TMS will be making 60 bowls for the event with the assistance of Alice Barsony and Sharif Bey.

Earth day at Wake Forest - Carol had heard we might be joining with WF. AME said she was getting info from a parent, but didn't know anything yet.

TODDLER PROGRAM:

Question asked about a toddler waiting list. Angela and AME told him it's a "pool" and that we could fill two more toddler classrooms if we had the space. He mentioned making parents aware of it, for their benefit and for positive publicity. Angela said that she has put that information in the web newsletter so everyone feels informed and can decide when to apply. She also said TMS is fortunate to have 4 new CH students starting in January.

New Idea: Renting plots for community gardens. The elementary classes could use their labor to fund big field trips. Tilling and composting could be draws for people who have land and the desire, but not the muscle or time.

Items for January meeting:

**Comprehensive presentation regarding Second Harvest
NLI update**

AME moved to adjourn. Marsha seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 6:50

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Smitherman